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From the Director's Desk NEW DIRECTION FOR WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

by Lawrence J. Baier, Director of the Division of Watershed Management

The Division of Watershed Management is embarking on a new direction in comprehensive water resource management. While the goal of clean and plentiful water remains the same, the methodology has been changed. The new approach emphasizes unambiguous standards designed to protect water quality and an agenda for discreet actions aimed at improving water quality where it is already impaired.

Taking this new approach would not be possible without the efforts and dedication of our partners and stakeholders in the process of watershed management: the Public Advisory Committees and Technical Advisory Committees in each of the twenty Watershed Management Areas (WMAs); those

(NEW DIRECTION FOR DWM continued on page 3)



On May 20th at the Manasquan Reservoir, Governor James E. McGreevey announced state plans for strengthened water quality protections for waterways that supply water for the Manasquan Reservoir and water adjacent to protected open space in the Manasquan watershed of Monmouth County. Accompanied by DEP Commissioner Bradley M. Campbell, the Governor also designated the month of May as Watershed Awareness Month to increase awareness of watershed communities and urge New Jerseyans to protect and conserve natural resources.

watershed *focus*

is a publication concentrating on watershed management, stormwater and nonpoint source pollution management issues in New Jersey. Send comments and subscription requests to:


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Raritan River Awarded Watershed Initiative Grant from EPA

The Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association has been selected to receive \$1 million in Watershed Initiative funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for work on the Raritan River. Governor James E. McGreevey and DEP Commissioner Bradley M. Campbell nominated and recommended funding for this project. Recognizing the link between this project and the department's Smart Growth Initiatives, the DEP also will be a partner in this project along with the New Jersey Water Supply Authority and the South Branch Watershed Association.

"The three-year grant will allow us to expand our streambank restoration and River-Friendly programs and step up outreach to municipalities in our own watershed, while we train organizations throughout the region to set up similar programs," stated George Hawkins, Executive Director of the Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association. The organization will use this money to conduct projects in three sub-watersheds of the Raritan River - the South Branch, the Millstone River and the Raritan/Somerville/Manville Mainstem.

The project will take a three-pronged approach: restoration of impaired water bodies, protection and preservation of high quality resources, and pollution prevention initiatives focused on ongoing discharges. Activities will include stream restoration and stabilization; riparian area protection; stormwater and nonpoint source pollution management; adoption of ordinances by municipalities; and implementation of pollution prevention programs. In tandem, these efforts should demonstrate measurable improvement in the water quality of this important watershed threatened by rapid development.

In May, EPA announced nearly \$15 million in grants to watershed organizations selected as part of a new watershed initiative to support community-driven initiatives that protect habitat, improve water quality, and enhance outdoor recreation. The Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association was one of twenty grantees selected nationally from a highly competitive field of 176 applications for EPA's Watershed Initiative. Grantees were chosen because they best demonstrated the ability to achieve on-the-ground environmental results in a short time frame. Each of these watershed organizations also exhibited strong, broad-based partnerships, showed innovation, and demonstrated compatibility with existing governmental programs.

For more information about the Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association and its watershed initiative log onto www.thewatershed.org.



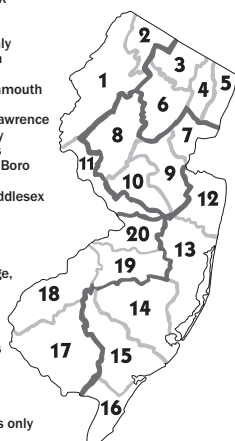
New Jersey's 2 Watershed Planning Bureaus & 20 Watershed Management Areas

Northern Planning Bureau (609) 633-3812

1. Upper Delaware River
2. Walkill, Pochuck, Papakating
3. Pompton, Pequannock, Wanauque, Ramapo
4. Lower Passaic, Saddle
5. Hackensack, Hudson, Pascack
6. Upper & Middle Passaic, Whippany, Rockaway
7. Arthur Kill - Hudson County only
8. North & South Branch Raritan
9. Lower Raritan, South River, Lawrence Brook - excluding Monmouth County
10. Millstone River - excluding Lawrence Township and Monmouth County
11. Central Delaware Tributaries - Hunterdon County, Pennington Boro and Hopewell Township only
12. Monmouth Watersheds - Middlesex County only

Southern Planning Bureau (609) 984-6888

7. Elizabeth, Rahway, Woodbridge, Arthur Kill - excluding Hudson County
9. Lower Raritan - Monmouth County only
11. Central Delaware Tributaries - Mercer County only, excluding Pennington Boro and Hopewell Township
12. Monmouth Watersheds - Monmouth and Ocean Counties only
13. Barnegat Bay Watersheds
14. Mullica, Wading River
15. Great Egg Harbor, Tuckahoe
16. Cape May Watersheds
17. Maurice, Salem, Cohansey
18. Lower Delaware Tributaries
19. Rancocas Creek
20. Crosswicks Creek



NEW DIRECTION FOR DWM

(continued from page 1)

who provide comments on our proposed rules and water quality management plan amendments; and those who have taken the initiative to design, build and operate environmental restoration projects with federal and state funding. This investment of “sweat equity” and financial resources has resulted in substantial achievements in watershed management areas around the State.

The future direction of the Division will follow two paths: a standards-based approach for preventing water quality degradation and an action approach to remedy existing water quality problems. In short term, the Division is revising its Executive Order 109 guidance to provide clearer standards in order to better protect water quality under the authority of the Water Quality Management Planning Rules. Ultimately, a new Water Quality Management Planning Rule will be adopted in order to improve our ability to protect waterways from impairment. This rule will prescribe acceptable development based on the carry capacity of the state’s water resources.

In order to remedy existing problems, water quality impaired stream segments are being addressed through an aggressive schedule for developing total maximum daily loads (TMDLs). This spring the Division proposed 166 fecal coliform TMDLs and 35 eutrophic lake TMDLs. Each TMDL will have an accompanying implementation plan designed to control the identified sources of pollution. Depending on the pollutant, that action plan might involve a combination of strategies including local ordinances, wildlife control, engineered retrofits, enforcement, and restoration projects.

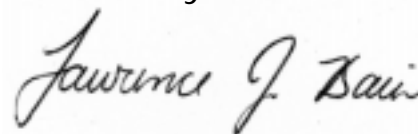
In an effort to achieve measurable water quality improvement, the Division will identify a discreet water quality impaired segment in each of the twenty WMAs where we will concentrate our efforts. In year one, the Division will ask the WMAs to participate in the preparation of a more detailed watershed plan for these segments that will first identify the specific sources of fecal coliform affecting that segment. Once the specified causes of water quality impairment have been identified, a restoration plan with specific actions designed to control those identified sources will be developed. In year two these actions will be implemented while the planning phase shifts to a new discreet segment. The goal is to document real water quality improvement by the end of the second year.

This shift in emphasis has necessitated changes in the Division of Watershed Management as well. The reorganized Division is composed of four bureaus and two offices. The

Northern Watershed Planning Bureau and the Southern Watershed Planning Bureau will focus on water quality management planning and watershed management activities in their respective regions. The Bureau of Environmental Analysis and Restoration will develop TMDLs and provide the technical and scientific basis for decision-making in the Division. The Bureau of Evaluation and Management will ensure that funds are expended consistent with the goals of the Division and that federal reporting requirements are met. It will also assess our effectiveness. The Office of Education and Outreach was created to meet the education needs of both staff and the public. Lastly, the Office of Water Resource Policy and Planning will formulate policy, draft rules to implement water policy, conduct water supply planning, and ensure consistency throughout the Division.

Clearly local support for these efforts remains critical to our success, and I look forward to continuing a productive relationship with our local partners.

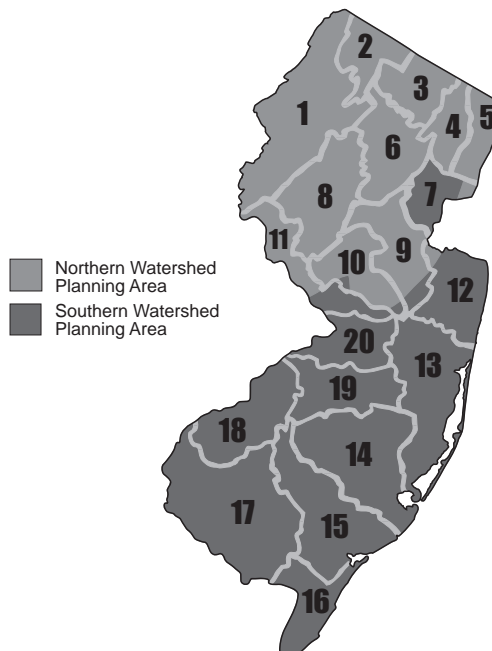
Sincerely,



Lawrence J. Baier

Director, Division of Watershed Management

New Jersey's 20 Watershed Management Areas



DEP Calls for Residents to Limit Pesticide Use

In anticipation of increased landscape and gardening activities this summer, Department of Environmental Protection's Commissioner Bradley M. Campbell urges New Jersey's residents to use pesticides sparingly and reminded commercial applicators of their obligation to provide the public advance notice before large-scale pesticide applications.

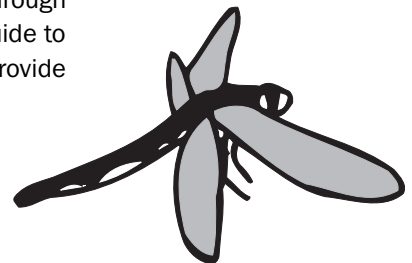
"Homeowners and licensed applicators need to protect themselves and the environment from pesticide misuse and overexposure," said Commissioner Campbell. "I encourage all residents to explore alternative pest control measures that are not only safe, but also help New Jersey minimize the contribution of pesticides to water pollution."

Although pesticides can be beneficial, they can also pose risks to human health and the environment if improperly handled. The risk to human health can result from several sources; direct exposure through improper use, residual pesticides on food, and release into the environment from improper storage or disposal. Children and infants are particularly susceptible to pesticide exposure.

Through its homepage www.nj.gov/dep, DEP posts information on the use of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices that provide homeowners effective and economical alternatives to routine pesticide spraying. Through IPM, a combination of pest management methods can be used including biological controls, barriers and simple household remedies like the application of a soap and water solution.

Commissioner Campbell also stresses that homeowners should check the credentials of professional pesticide applicators to ensure that they have valid DEP-issued licenses for both the pesticide applicator and the business, as well as required liability insurance for pesticide use. Applicators for weed, termite and household pest controls are among those licensed through the department's Pesticide Control Program.

Residents who suspect pesticide misapplication should call DEP's Bureau of Pesticide Compliance at 609-984-6568 (during off-hours, and suspected environmental violations should be reported to DEP's 24-hour hotline at 1-877-927-6337). For a pesticide health emergency, call the New Jersey Poison Information System at 1-800-222-1222. Through the federal EPA's website at www.epa.gov, individuals can access a Citizen's Guide to Pest Control and Pesticide Safety. Local Rutgers County Extension offices also provide access to good sources of specific pest control information.



Watershed Ambassadors Clean-up on National Youth Service Day

by Lisa Merman, NJ Watershed Ambassador for WMA 15



On Saturday, April 12th, Watershed Ambassadors participated in a stream cleanup with students from Lower Cape May Regional High School, Holy Spirit High School, and other concerned citizens removing over eight tons of trash.



AmeriCorps members and volunteers gather to clean up Wesley Lake in Asbury Park as part of National Youth Service Leader Day.

Members of the NJDEP Division of Watershed Management Watershed Ambassador Program participated in National Youth Service Day (April 11 - 13) by educating New Jersey's youth about watersheds and nonpoint source pollution. "Members of our Watershed Ambassadors Program met the challenge of engaging New Jersey's youth in improving their local environment," said Director Lawrence J. Baier. "The stewardship exhibited on this weekend will hopefully continue throughout the lives of many volunteers that were so eager to help their communities."

On April 11th, Watershed Ambassadors taught 80 second grade students at Winfield Scott Elementary School in Elizabeth, NJ about watersheds and nonpoint source pollution. On Saturday, April 12th, Watershed Ambassadors organized a stream clean-up with students from Lower Cape May Regional High School, Holy Spirit High School, and other concerned citizens. The group collected lumber, a television, a rusty hot water heater, lawn furniture remnants, large pieces of concrete pipes, several tires, twenty bicycles, and lots of trash. Also on April 12th, Watershed Ambassadors teamed up with the NJ Youth Corps of Asbury Park to conduct a clean-up of Wesley Lake. Volunteers cleaned the land area surrounding the 100 storm drains that lead into the lake, removing eight tons of trash and debris.

National Youth Service Day is the largest service event in the world, mobilizing millions of young Americans to identify and address the needs of their communities through service. National Youth Service Day is also an opportunity to recruit the next generation of volunteers to educate the public about the role of youth as community leaders. It is a nationwide effort to get the youth of America involved in serving their communities.

The New Jersey Watershed Ambassadors Program is a community oriented AmeriCorps program hosted by the NJDEP Division of Watershed Management. Members in the program serve their community by monitoring local waterways and educating the public on watershed issues. AmeriCorps is part of USA Freedom Corps. For more information, contact Christine Hirt, Program Manager at 609-292-2113 or christine.hirt@dep.state.nj.us.

Hooked on Urban Fishing

by Joe Novemsky, Division of Watershed Management



What do middle school kids living in the Newark Bay watershed know about Blue Claw Crabs, Striped Bass, American Eel, White Perch, White Catfish, and Bluefish over six pounds found in their local waters? If they have been participating in the Harbor Watershed Education and Urban Fishing Program, they know that those six species are currently under advisory in these waters. Do they know that the things they do every day have an effect on their watershed? Do they know that so many things that happen on land affect the water and its aquatic systems? They do now!

Hundreds of children from middle schools surrounding the Newark Bay Complex have already learned what it means to live in a watershed. Not only can they recognize a Blue Heron and tell you what “brackish water” is, but they have also come to understand how human activity is linked to the fish that have been under consumption advisory in the area for years.





Hooked on Urban Fishing

In 1993, citizens around the Newark Bay area raised concerns that their children, vulnerable to poisons in fish due to water pollution, were unaware of the fish consumption advisories that had been placed. When they suggested a program to teach students about the advisories, Kerry Kirk Pflugh, now Education and Outreach Manager for NJDEP's Division of Watershed Management, developed what is now called the Harbor Watershed Education and Urban Fishing Program.

And so it began, at first as a day of fishing with a few local students, and later as a four-day learning experience for children from nine communities, including Newark, Bayonne, and Elizabeth.

As part of the program, students work on classroom activities, such as fish identification game and EnviroScape, a model watershed that teaches them about stormwater and nonpoint source pollution. Students also participate in a litter clean-up, storm drain marking, water quality testing and an "eco-cruise" with the Hackensack Riverkeeper. On the last day of the program, students go fishing using their knowledge to become responsible, ethical anglers and maybe even catch a fish or two!

To learn more about the Harbor Watershed Education and Urban Fishing Program, contact Kerry Kirk Pflugh or Joe Novemsky at 609-292-2113.



Water Enforcement Teams Launched to Protect Our Waterways

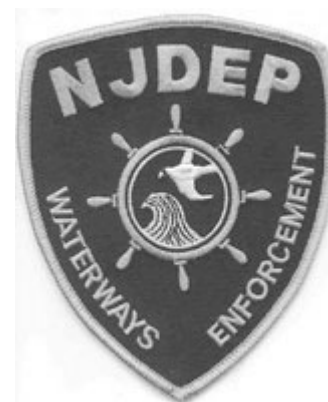
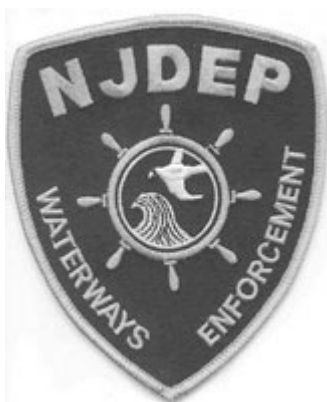
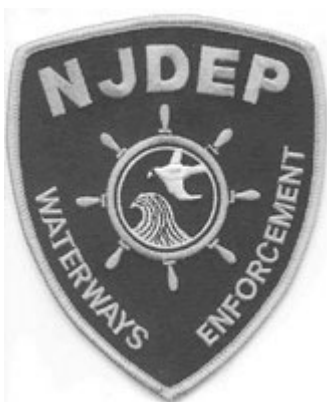
To help ensure New Jersey residents have cleaner, safer waterways, the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has launched a new approach to protect our waterways and enable environmental inspectors to travel the state's rivers and bays by boat and identify pollution problems at the source.

The DEP initiative known as WET - Waterway Enforcement Teams - includes two groups of experienced environmental inspectors who will organize boat surveillances along major water bodies looking for water and land-use violations.

"These enforcement teams will have greater access to inspect our major waterways and will strengthen our efforts to protect our water resources statewide," said DEP Commissioner Bradley M. Campbell.

WET was initiated after Bill Sheehan, executive director of the Hackensack Riverkeeper, invited Commissioner Campbell and other DEP officials to tour the Hackensack River and discuss new ways to enforce water protection laws more effectively. The goal of WET enforcement efforts is threefold. Working in cooperation with local citizens and organizations like New Jersey's riverkeeper and baykeepers, DEP inspectors will follow-up on tips of harmful activities occurring along the state's waterways. In addition to facility inspections, enforcement officers also will conduct routine boat surveys and offer assistance programs to improve environmental compliance for businesses. WET inspectors also will serve as points of contact for future DEP watershed multimedia inspections.

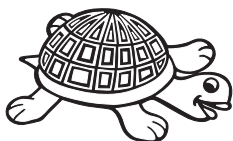
The Northern and Southern Waterway Enforcement Teams are being led by DEP's inspector John Zuseck, an enforcement officer in the Northern Region Office of the Water Compliance Bureau. Zuseck is a recent recipient of a Hackensack Riverkeeper award, which recognizes individuals who have worked with the advocacy group in their efforts to protect the Hackensack River. Ten DEP inspectors with backgrounds in water compliance, land-use and solid waste enforcement are assigned to WETs. The boats used during the inspections are being supplied by the state Attorney General's office.



Announcing NJ's First Volunteer Monitoring Summit

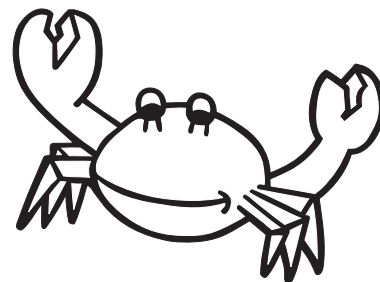
This fall the New Jersey Department on Environmental Protection will be hosting its first Volunteer Monitoring Summit on November 7 and 8 at the Clarion in Edison. Volunteer monitors from across the state are invited to participate in this event. If your organization has information to share with fellow monitors, please contact our office to submit an abstract. This is an excellent opportunity to find out how to set up a local monitoring program, what other organizations are doing and learn about new directions from the Division of Watershed Management.

Publications Available from NJDEP Division of Watershed Management



Are you interested in educating your community about water issues? Do you want to learn more about stormwater, nonpoint source pollution and watersheds? Do you have students that want to learn about New Jersey's water resources?

The Division of Watershed Management has a number of free publications that can help you. We have many publications that are available online on our website at www.nj.gov/dep/watershedmgt. To receive any of our publications listed below in the mail, please use the order form below.



- _____ **What's a Watershed Brochure**
- _____ **New Jersey's Watersheds Poster (18" x 24")**
- _____ **New Jersey Watershed Management Area Map (11" x 17")**
- _____ **Watershed Focus Newsletter**
- _____ **NJ Watershed Ambassador Brochure**

Clean Water Raingers Publications (Grades 1 through 6) *for students and educators*

- _____ **CWR Coloring Book (Grades 1 - 3)**
- _____ **How to be a CWR Activity Booklet (Grades 4 - 6)**
- _____ **CWR Stickers**
- _____ **Beneath the Shell: A Teacher's Guide to Nonpoint Source Pollution and its Potential Impact on Shellfish**

For more information or to place an order,
please contact:
(609) 292-2113 - phone
(609) 777-1282 - fax
kyra.hoffmann@dep.state.nj.us

Kyra Hoffmann
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Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Date needed: _____

DEP Honors Environmental Leaders and Innovators With Environmental Excellence Awards

Whippany River Action Committee and George Van Orden Recognized

In November 2002, Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Commissioner Bradley M. Campbell honored environmental leaders including the Whippany River Action Committee and George Van Orden through the annual Environmental Excellence Awards. The awards recognize individuals, businesses, and communities who have made significant contributions to environmental protection in New Jersey.

"These awards recognize men and women, corporations and communities that have left an indelible imprint on New Jersey," said Commissioner Campbell. "The innovative leadership of these award recipients benefits us today and future generations in the longterm."

The Whippany River Action Committee, a nonprofit, grass-roots watershed association in Morris County, was selected as the winning nominee in the Clean and Plentiful Water Category. In 2002, the Committee organized a community-based Technical Advisory Committee to foster acquisition, ownership, and use of waterway assessment and monitoring technology and knowledge. The results of the Committee's original scientific studies are aiding the development and adoption of water resources protection technologies and practices by local governments. Thirteen municipal governments and the Morris County Board of Chosen Freeholders lead the Committee.

In the Environmental Stewardship Category, Dr. George Van Orden was recognized as a leader in watershed protection and enhancement, dedicated to the issues of water quality and public health in Morris County for two decades. Since 1981, he has served as the Health Officer and Environmental Specialist of the Hanover Township Regional Health Department. He has also taught classes at Rutgers University, Cook College, since 1983.

Dr. Van Orden is a founding member of the Whippany River Watershed Action Committee and Chairman of its Technical Advisory Committee. He has conducted studies and published scientific reports that have contributed to public health and water resources protection. Dr. Van Orden is also a Borough of Madison Environmental Commissioner and a member of the Ten Towns Great Swamp Committee.

Winners are judged on the basis of documented environmental benefits, innovation, and longterm impact to the environment. Other award categories are Clean Air, Safe and Healthy Communities, Abundant Open Space, Healthy Ecosystems, Innovative Technology, and Environmental Leadership.



Request for Proposals for State Fiscal Year 2004 New Jersey Section 319(h) Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Grants

The NJDEP Division of Watershed Management is seeking proposals for nonpoint source pollution control grants. The purpose of these grants is to provide funding to implement projects that are designed to achieve a measurable water quality improvement in support of New Jersey's clean and plentiful water initiative. Approximately \$1 million in federal 319(h) grant funds will be available. There will be no maximum or minimum dollar amount set for proposals. No match is required, but it is recommended since it demonstrates commitment to the project.

FUNDING PRIORITIES ARE:

- The reduction of NPS pollution in List 5 impaired waters and/or implementation of an established total maximum daily loads
- Restoration, maintenance or enhancement of Category 1 Water or Ambient Biological Monitoring Station
- Implementation of stormwater management or water quality measures identified in previous assessment projects
- Development of Regional Stormwater Management Plans

ELIGIBLE ENTITIES:

- Municipal planning departments or boards, municipal health departments or boards
- County planning department, county health departments or boards
- Designated water quality management planning agencies
- State government agencies, universities and colleges, federal government
- Watershed and water resources associations and other local nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations

DEADLINE:

The SFY 2004 Grant Application package is currently available.
Proposals are due August 15, 2003.

PLEASE NOTE:

The Department is currently petitioning the US Environmental Protection Agency for approval to use these funds for implementation of the proposed NJPDES Phase II municipal stormwater permitting program (35 NJR 169(a)). This notice of availability is issued subject to a final decision by the US Environmental Protection Agency on this request.

CONTACT

For more information, please contact Jessica Milose at 609-633-1179 or at jessica.milose@dep.state.nj.us

NJ Watershed Ambassadors Recognized by State Commission



The NJ Watershed Ambassador Program received a Bright Idea Award from the NJ Commission on National and Community Service for the Salt Marsh Restoration Project in the Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge. Awards are given to programs that demonstrated effectiveness and creativity in local communities. As part of a longterm effort to restore snow goose-damaged marsh areas in the refuge, Ambassador Tammy West, coordinated the planning and restoration effort with assistance from AmeriCorps members, Friends of Forsythe and The Nature Conservancy.

As part of the project, snow fencing is installed to discourage waterfowl from destroying newly planted salt marsh grass *Spartina alterniflora* and to allow the grass to root and spread to reestablish salt marsh vegetation. Fencing also traps free-floating *Spartina* seed in an effort to promote vegetative propagation. Restoration of this area will create new habitat for these species to reproduce and with continued monitoring, will increase the populations of indigenous flora and fauna species in the region.

NJ Watershed Ambassador Brad Rosenthal received the AmeriCorps Member of Excellence Award from the NJ Commission on National and Community Service. The Member of Excellence Award is given to a member that demonstrates leadership qualities, takes an active role in planning community service projects and demonstrates an ethic of service. Brad joined the program in September 2002 with great enthusiasm and professionalism. He has been working closely with his host agency, Cape May County Department of Planning, working on environmental protection initiatives throughout the county. Brad has greatly contributed to the Ambassador Program by becoming a well-known resource within his watershed community.

